

Teach Us To Pray

Lesson 2 “Heaven on Earth”

I. Introduction - We are taking a break from our study through the various books of the Bible to start a series on prayer over the next few weeks. We'll pick back up with *1 Thessalonians* in mid September when we study Paul's ministry in Thessaloniki.

A. The goal of the series is to teach on prayer and how to pray biblically.

1. Last week I taught about the heart of prayer, which is intimacy with God.
2. I shared how the Lord showed me through a time of prayer about how we need more than a revival in America; we need a reformation. We need to re-form.
3. We then talked about what it means to make an all out commitment to Jesus. He wants every aspect of our lives and if we are going to see an all transformation of our society, it has to begin with us.
4. We then looked at the Prayer of Consecration from *Matthew 26*.

B. Tonight we are going to study the Lord's Prayer from *Matthew 6*.

II. Heaven on Earth

A. After the disciples asked Jesus to pray, He said pray this way: **Matthew 6:9-10 On Earth as it is in Heaven.**

B. We are going to both at the mechanics of this prayer tonight (how to pray), but more importantly culture shift this prayer introduces.

1. Why Important? Many Christians here the words heaven on earth and they think this is just a pie in the sky saying and sort of a hyperbole Jesus used that He didn't really mean.
2. I want to show you that heaven on earth has always been God's agenda and this is a practical reality we are called to walk in.
3. He wants to introduce a reality that transcends all of our current options.
 - a. The phraseology in the verse, ***your kingdom come, your will be done is a demand***. Jesus is literally demanding that heaven invade earth. ex: He would preach the kingdom and then pray for the sick. Heaven invades earth.
 - b. Kingdom - means to rule - God rules heaven and wants to rule earth. **This is our manifest destiny as believers.** Example of England and the colonies.
 - c. If it exists in heaven it is supposed to exist in the earth and if it doesn't exist in heaven, it's not supposed to exist in the earth. Heaven is the prototype for earth.

- i. Examples - Presence of Jesus
- ii. **Revelation 22:1-2** Tree of life was in heaven and God spoke it into the earth.
- iii. **Hebrews 8:3-5**, the tabernacle of Moses was fashioned after a heavenly tabernacle. *Interestingly, many scholars say that the Solomon's temple was patterned after the garden of Eden, which was patterned after Heaven.*
- iv. **John 3:3** **ἀνωθεν**, an'-o-then; from G507; from above; Same word that's used when *James 1* says every good and perfect gift comes from above.
- v. **Deuteronomy 11:18-21** days of heaven on earth
- vi. **Revelation 21:2** The new Jerusalem came down out of heaven as a bride prepared for her husband.

C. Where do we go from here? **Psalm 119:89** *Forever o Lord your word is settled in heaven.* God's word is settled in heaven, but it doesn't get settled in the earth until we decree it.

III. Conclusion - My goal tonight was to take us from a pie in the sky, hoping, and a wishing, and a praying, to a radical transformation to God's heart for the world and what He wants to do here.

A. Let's begin to take His word and declare it over one another.

B. Let's pray for our church and our nation. Let's pray for a revival that leads to reformation. (Prayer initiatives - revival, signs and wonders, the elections, the economy, peace, students and education, pastors and churches to be bold and stand strong and get creative ideas to win the lost.